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Darling Venture Capital Bill Delivering for Wisconsin Entrepreneurs

MADISON - More Wisconsin start-ups will get off the ground thanks to a bill by State Senator Alberta Darling. In 2013, Senator Darling authored legislation to create the Badger Fund to invest in Wisconsin start-ups. Now a Wisconsin investment group says it will help start-ups get off the ground.

This week, <u>the Idea Fund of La Crosse announced</u> it would invest \$8 million in Wisconsin companies over the next few years. Darling says she is glad the investment is paying off.

"I authored the Badger Fund-to-Fund bill to keep our state competitive," Darling said, "At the time, entrepreneurs were struggling getting their ideas into the marketplace. I'm thrilled to see this investment is making a difference."

The Idea Fund says they plan to invest in start-ups in the information technology, health care, engineered products, agriculture, education, and financial services. Senator Darling says the future is bright for Wisconsin's entrepreneurs.

"Wisconsin's greatest resource is our people." Darling said, "The Idea Fund of La Crosse will be able to invest in the best ideas from the best people and help create family-supporting jobs for our state."

Senator Darling represents portions of Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Washington and Waukesha Counties.